

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 09007 01 OF 02 171242Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAC-00 INRE-00 IO-13 AID-05
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 STR-07 HA-05 ACDA-12
/146 W

-----129439 171308Z /45

O R 171230Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8592
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 09007

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PEPR, MOPS, CG, OAU, US, GW
SUBJECT: ZAIRE'S FOREIGN MINISTER IN BONN

SUMMARY: ZAIRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER UMBA, WHO IS IN THE
FRG FOR MEETINGS OF THE FRG -ZAIRE MIXED COMMISSION,
MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER YESTERDAY TO DISCUSS
THE SHABA INVASION AND OTHER AFRICAN PROBLEMS. IN
RESPONSE TO UMBA'S PLEA, THE FRG IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE
ZAIRE WITH DM 3.5 MILLION IN HUMANITARIAN AID
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 09007 01 OF 02 171242Z

(MEDICAL SUPPLIES.) UMBA ALSO ASKED GENSCHER TO USE HIS
GOOD OFFICES IN ELICITING US SUPPORT FOR ZAIRE. UMBA
PLANS TO REMAIN IN EUROPE UNTIL MAY 19-20 AND WILL
STOP IN RABAT ENROUTE TO ZAIRE. END SUMMARY.

1. THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS BRIEFED US ON THE CONTENTS
OF GENSCHER'S TWO-HOUR TALK (AFTERNOON OF MAY 16) WITH

VISITING ZAIRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER UMBA. AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED, THE EVENTS IN SHABA WERE THE MAJOR TOPIC; DISCUSSIONS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA AND OTHER AFRICAN PROBLEMS COVERED WELL-WORN GROUND.

2. UMBA BRIEFED GENSCHER ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN SHABA. ACCORDING TO UMBA, THE INVASION WAS THE MANIFESTATION OF A LONG-TERM USSR/GDR/CUBAN/LIBYAN PLAN TO TOPPLE THE MOBUTU REGIME. ON MAY 15, TWO BATTALIONS OF ZAIRIAN TROOPS HAD BEEN AIRLIFTED INTO THE EMBATTLED AREA AND UMBA WAS HOPEFUL THEY MIGHT TURN BACK THE INVADING FORCE. THE ATTACKERS, UMBA CLAIMED, WERE NOT REBELS; INSTEAD, THEY WERE FOREIGN-TRAINED, FOREIGN-EQUIPPED INVADERS.

3. ZAIRE, UMBA SAID, WAS APPROACHING HER WESTERN FRIENDS FOR AID IN HER TIME OF NEED. ACCORDING TO UMBA, ZAIRE IS COUNTING ON \$15 MILLION OF US AID, WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN REQUESTED. FRANCE HAS AGREED, IN PRINCIPLE, TO PROVIDE MILITARY HELP, ALTHOUGH DETAILS HAVE YET TO BE WORKED OUT. (COMMENT: THE FOREIGN OFFICE NOTES THAT ITS REPORTS FROM PARIS ARE LESS UNEQUIVOCAL. END COMMENT.)

4. FROM THE FRG, UMBA ASKED FOR HUMANITARIAN AID AND MORAL SUPPORT IN HER STRUGGLE. GENSCHER REPLIED THAT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 09007 01 OF 02 171242Z

THE FRG WAS PREPARED TO SEND DM 3.5 MILLION WORTH OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES FROM BUNDESWEHR STOCKS ON AN IMMEDIATE BASIS. MORE HUMANITARIAN AID MIGHT BE FORTHCOMING AS ZAIRE'S NEEDS BECOME CLEARER. UMBA THEN ASKED THAT THE FRG REMIND THE US OF THE BIBLICAL STORY OF "THE PRODIGAL SON." ACCORDING TO UMBA, "WHEN A MAN HAS A RELIABLE SON, HE SHOULD DO EVERYTHING SO AS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 09007 02 OF 02 171245Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 AID-05
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 STR-07 HA-05 ACDA-12
/146 W

-----129483 171308Z /45

O R 171230Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8593
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 09007

NOT TO LOSE HIM." GENSCHER MADE NO COMMITMENT.

5. UMBA CONFIDED THAT HE HAS BEEN INVITED TO STOP OVER
IN RABAT AFTER HIS DEPARTURE FROM THE FRG ON MAY 19 OR
20. THAT INVITATION HAD BEEN CONVEYED ORALLY THROUGH
THE MOROCCAN AMBASSADOR IN PARIS. UMBA WAS NOW AWAITING
RECEIPT OF A WRITTEN INVITATION TO THE SAME EFFECT.
(COMMENT: THE GERMANS ARE PERPLEXED BY UMBA'S
EMPHASIS ON RECEIVING A WRITTEN CONFIRMATION, SINCE
UMBA IMPLIED THAT HE WOULD NOT GO TO MOROCCO WITHOUT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 09007 02 OF 02 171245Z

ONE. END COMMENT.)

6. ACCORDING TO UMBA, ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA HAD
RECEIVED A SPECIAL AMBASSADOR FOR ZAIRE WHILE HE
WAS IN LONDON (MAY 15.) KAUNDA HAD CONDEMNED THE
ANGOLAN "ADVENTURERS" AND INDICATED HIS CONCERN THAT
ZAMBIA'S BORDERS WERE SO DIFFICULT TO CONTROL. ZAIRE,
UMBA SAID, WAS CONVINCED THERE WAS NO ZAMBIAN COLLUSION
IN THE ATTACK.

7. IN RESPONSE TO GENSCHER'S QUERY, UMBA SAID THE
OAU WOULD BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INVASION, BUT IN LIGHT

OF ITS DEMONSTRATED INABILITY TO ACT, ZAIRE WOULD NOT ASK FOR ANY
OAU ACTION.

8. OTHER TOPICS COVERED IN THE GENSCHER-UMBA TALKS
INCLUDED:

-- ANGOLA: UMBA SAID NETO AND VP LARA ARE BOTH VERY
SICK. IN ANY EVENT, NETO IS NO LONGER IN CHARGE. EVEN
THE CUBANS SEE THIS AND, IN FACT, ARE IN CONTACT WITH
ROBERTO HOLDEN.

-- RHODESIA: UMBA OBSERVED THAT THE AFRICANS ERRED BY
CONSIDERING NKOMO AND MUGABE AS THE ONLY TWO
ZIMBABWEAN PATRIOTS.

-- NAMIBIA/SOUTH AFRICA: GENSCHER EXPLAINED THE LATEST
DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WEST'S NAMIBIA INITIATIVE, NOTING
THAT CONTACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICA ARE ESSENTIAL TO KEEP
UP A CRITICAL DIALOGUE.
STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN09007
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780207-0971
Format: TEL
From: BONN USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780551/aaaabrcd.tel
Line Count: 189
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 352f3e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2671101
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ZAIRE'S FOREIGN MINISTER IN BONN SUMMARY: ZAIRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER UMBA, WHO IS IN THE FRG FOR MEETINGS OF THE FRG -ZAIRE MIXED COMMISSIO
TAGS: PINS, PEPR, MOPS, CG, US, GE, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/352f3e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014